

VZCZCXYZ0000
OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHDS #0400 0500501
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 190501Z FEB 08
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9590
INFO RUEHAE/AMEMBASSY ASMARA 2130
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 3100
RUEHDJ/AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI 8919
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 3030
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 3385
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 6387
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 4181
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 7255
RUEHC/DEPT OF INTERIOR WASHINGTON DC
RHMFISS/HQ USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL
RUEKDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC
RHMFISS/CJTF HOA
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 000400

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR AF A/S FRAZER, AF DAS SWAN, AF/E, AF/PDPA, OES,
PRM A/S SAUERBREY, PRM/AFR
USAID AFR/AA FOR KALMQUIST, WWARREN, JBORNS, KNELSON,
CTHOMPSON
DCHA/AA FOR MHESS, GGOTTLIEB
DCHA/OFDA FOR KLUU, ACONVERY, CCHAN, PMORRIS, KCHANNELL
DCHA/FFP JDWORKEN, PMORAN, SANTHONY, PBERTOLIN
LONDON, PARIS, ROME FOR AFRICA WATCHER
CJTF-HOA AND USCENCOM FOR POLAD
USDA/FAS FOR U/S PENN, RTILSWORTH, AND LPANASUK
NAIROBI FOR OFDA/ECARO GPLATT, RFFPO NCOX, USAID/EA
ROME FOR AMBASSADOR, OHA, HSPANOS
BRUSSELS FOR USEU PBROWN
GENEVA FOR NKYLOH, RMA
USUN FOR FSHANKS
NSC FOR PMARCHAN
STATE PLS PASS TO DEPT OF AGRICULTURE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/15/2018

TAGS: [EAID PHUM SENV EAGR PGOV ET](#)

SUBJECT: (C) USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TEAM: ONLF CONTACT

REF: A. ADDIS 3644
[B. ADDIS 3611](#)
[C. ADDIS 0027](#)
[D. ADDIS 0153](#)

Classified By: DCM Deborah Malac. Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

[1](#). (C) Between January 15 and January 21, 2008, USG Humanitarian Assistance Team (HAT) staff in Ethiopia traveled to Gode and Korahe zones in Somali Region as part of a third field visit to assess the current humanitarian situation. During this time, the USG HAT convoy, including UN and partner NGO vehicles, encountered an Ogaden National Liberation Front (ONLF) checkpoint while traveling between Gode and Kebridehar towns.

[2](#). (C) The ONLF twice stopped the USG HAT convoy at the same checkpoint on the way to and from Kebridehar town. On the way from Gode to Kebridehar town, the ONLF approached the drivers and allowed the convoy to pass with limited delay. Two days later, on the HAT convoy's return from Kebridehar town to Gode, the ONLF required the convoy to wait until an ONLF member had climbed to the top of a hill beside the road before permitting the convoy to pass. The USG HAT noted an atmosphere of increased tension compared to the first time the convoy passed the checkpoint. In addition, the ONLF questioned UN World Food Program staff as to why food aid was not being delivered to rural areas.

